

REMARKS

In the non-final Office Action, the Examiner rejects claims 2-19 on the grounds of non-statutory obviousness-type double patenting over claims 1-19 of U.S. Patent No. 6,633,587B1. The rejection is respectfully traversed.¹

Initially, Applicants acknowledge, with appreciation, the Examiner's indication that claims 2-19 are allowable over the prior art of record.

Claims 2, 3, and 10-20 have been amended to improve form. No new matter has been introduced. Claims 2-19 remain pending.

Claims 2-19 stand rejected under the judicially created doctrine of obviousness-type double patenting as allegedly unpatentable over claims 1-19 of U.S. Patent No. 6,633,587B1. Without acquiescing in the rejection, but solely to expedite prosecution, Applicant submits herewith a terminal disclaimer.

Accordingly, Applicant respectfully requests the Examiner's reconsideration and withdrawal of the obviousness-type double patenting rejection of claims 2-19.

CONCLUSION

In view of the foregoing amendments and remarks, Applicant respectfully requests the Examiner's reconsideration of the application and the timely allowance of the pending claims.

To the extent necessary, a petition for an extension of time under 37 C.F.R. § 1.136 is hereby made. Please charge any shortage in fees due in connection with the

¹ As Applicant's remarks with respect to the Examiner's rejections overcome the rejections, Applicant's silence as to certain assertions by the Examiner in the Office Action or certain requirements that may be applicable to such rejections (e.g., whether a reference constitutes prior art, assertions as to dependent claims, etc.) is not a concession by Applicant that such assertions are accurate or that such requirements have been met, and Applicant reserves the right to dispute these assertions/requirements in the future.

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and please credit any excess fees to such deposit account.

Respectfully submitted,

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